



Citizen Update

The official newsletter of the City of Casper

Winter 2006

Casper Continues to Lead in the Fight Against Meth



Casper Police Chief Tom Pagel, a key organizer of both the Citizen's Committee and the Meth Awareness Conference.

Comprehensive Plan Will Address Every Facet of the Methamphetamine Problem

The City of Casper is once again showing leadership in its approach to the state's methamphetamine problem. After hosting the Third Annual Meth Awareness conference, the City helped sponsor a Citizen's Committee to develop a comprehensive plan for fighting meth in Natrona County.

The Citizen's Committee worked tirelessly through the month of January and concluded with a proposal based on prevention, early intervention, law enforcement, and treatment.

The Committee was composed

of a diverse group of citizens who agreed to make the enormous commitment of time and energy. Sessions were held four nights a week, followed by an eight hour session every Saturday.

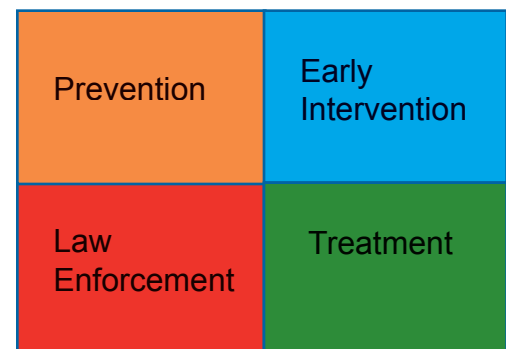
Though not experts themselves, the Committee was educated by both local and national experts. Judges, police chiefs, teachers, doctors, high school students, and entrepreneurs all gave their input on the impact of methamphetamines.

The Committee's specific recommendations included expanding the number of residential treatment beds, increasing information sharing among drug treatment and law enforcement agencies, greater data collection to better understand the extent of the meth problem, and encouraging the expansion of existing drug testing measures.

While the Committee was formed to create a plan specifically for Casper, the City also hosted the Third Annual Meth Awareness Conference so that all cities in the region have the tools to fight meth.

The Meth Conference

is hosted every January by the City of Casper. This year's conference attracted more than 700 participants



The pillars of Casper's comprehensive meth strategy.

and drew experts from across the United States and Canada.

"We want to be a resource for anyone who has to deal with meth, whether they're a lawyer, a teacher, a doctor, or a cop," said conference organizer Casper Police Lieutenant Michael Moore.



The Meth Awareness Conference drew 723 participants, including experts in law enforcement, education, drug treatment, and public health.

Lock Your Doors!

A few weeks after Christmas, Casper police officers chased an armed suspect through a south Casper neighborhood. The suspect evaded police for hours by ducking in and out of several unlocked houses.



Officers were shocked at the number of unlocked, unoccupied homes.

"Hundreds of burglaries could be prevented if people would just lock up their cars and their homes when they leave for work in the morning," said Lt. Rick Liabe of the Casper Police Department.

Broadcasting Live from a Water Meter Near You: H₂O Radio Has Arrived

The new sound in Casper is H₂O Radio. It's a 21st Century radio upgrade that's keeping water rates low in the City of Casper.

E.R.T.'s ("electronic radio transmitters") are now being installed throughout the city. These devices will let City personnel save time and money by reading water meters remotely rather than tromping through backyards and over fences.

Every household in the City of Casper will soon be receiving a door hanger that will inform them that E.R.T.'s are being installed in their neighborhood. Since installation usually has to be done inside

the house, the door hanger is an invitation to call 472-0421 to set up an appointment.



In some neighborhoods, people received their hanger and tried to make an appointment, but a faulty voice mail system lost some of the messages. The City is particularly interested in reaching those households

where the installation was missed the first time through.

So even if you received a door hanger several weeks or a month ago, call in now, and you too can become a part of the E.R.T. phenomenon.

New Snow Map Now In Effect

Due to the addition of new neighborhoods and new schools, the city has made some changes to the list of streets that are plowed or de-iced after a snowstorm. Red routes and school routes are plowed first. Green routes are plowed second. Other streets are attended to only if a special hazard exists. To report a hazardous road condition, citizens can call 235-8283.

